

Up:

Yes, up. That's where the contestants in the Rolling Stone-US Pro Freestyle Competition at Highlands were last Friday. Read about it on page 1-B

Down:

Is how five out-of-state skiers said to have been caught skiing a closed run felt after being busted for safety act violations at Highlands earlier this week. Page 11-A.

Vol. 111 * No. 1

January 4, 1990 * Aspen, Colorado

35 cents * 3 sections

THE ASPEN TIMES

it's time to put Aspen on the couch

This town needs a shrink!

by Paul Andersen

She sauntered into the office 20 minutes late and the doctor checked his appointment book. The new patient went by only one name, and that name was "Aspen." How affected, he thought.

She looked young and trim, surprisingly well-preserved for her age.

"Hi ya, Doc," she said flippantly, without even looking at him. "How's it goin'?"

"You're late," he reprimanded as she polished bright red fingernails on her sweater.

"Late? Ha!" she laughed. "I've always been way ahead of my time."

"That's one opinion," said the doctor, "but you're late for this appointment."

"You should appreciate the fact that I'm here at all instead of criticizing me, doctor," and she formed her almost perfect face into a pout. "I'm paying the bill, after all."

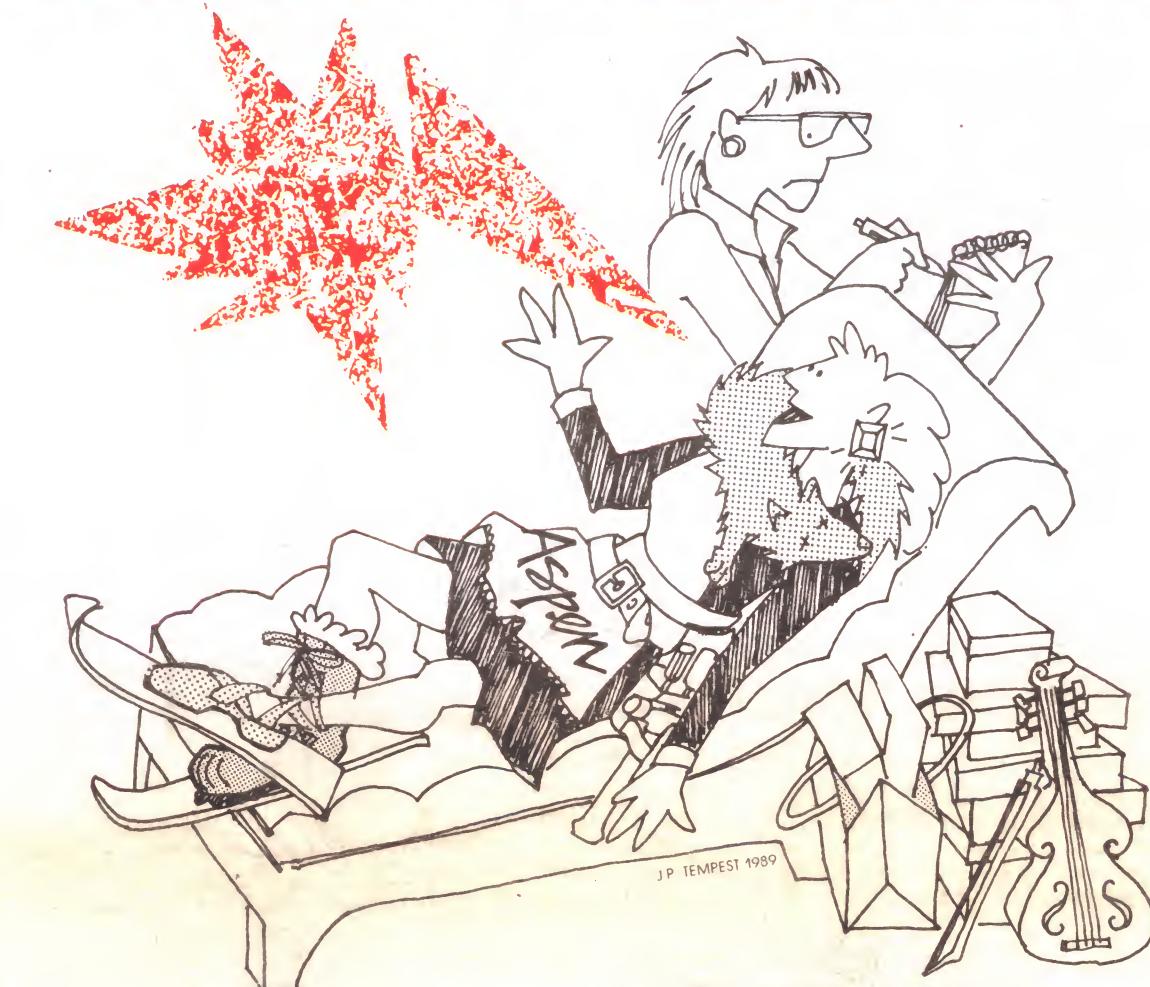
"Tell me something about yourself Miss . . . uh, Aspen."

She wrinkled her brow. "Well, I was born about 100 years ago into a state of nature and never knew my real parents. My first intimacy was with a wealthy silver miner. But ours was an abusive relationship. He exploited me, and when it broke off I went through about 40 years of depression.

"Then I met a businessman from Chicago and we had a little fling. He was vastly wealthy and showed the world to me. Well, he's gone now and I'm on my own again. I am successful, intelligent and wealthy, but I really don't know who I am."

"I see," said the doctor, who jotted in his notebook: Identity Crisis. "What is your history of treatment?"

"Oh, whatever has been the trend. I've gone through group



Embattled, bitter, polarized, confused — Aspen needs psychoanalysis.

therapy, primal scream, conflict resolution, Insight, Drieker's, rolfing, EST, DMA, TM, and now the EPA. But nothing seems to work. I attended a co-dependency program once but became dependent upon it. I can't win."

"Tell me about your drug and alcohol use, Miss Aspen."

"I enjoy getting high, but only for special occasions, like Columbus Day, Bastille Day, Ground Hog Day, Guy Fawkes Day, Prince Andrew's birthday, the anniversary of the Crimean War . . . whatever's happening at the moment."

"I see," said the doctor, who wrote in his notebook: Addictive

Personality. "Do you have any religious preferences?"

"No. I've been everything from Buddhist to Baptist and found that religion doesn't give any answers, only more questions: the eternal WHY? All that pondering gives me a headache."

"Do you feel all right? You look rather tired."

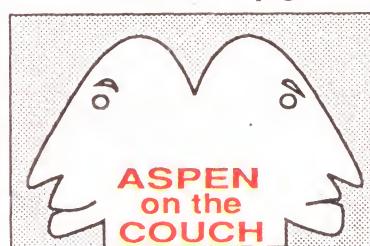
"Tired!" and she turned to glare at the doctor. "I've never felt better. Tired? Look at me. I'm the most beautiful thing you've ever seen," she said, stretching out on the couch and raising one arm, the wrist cocked. "I've got assets I haven't even used yet."

"I see," said the doctor, who wrote in his notebook: Narcissis-

tic. "Then what's the problem? If you feel so self-assured, why do you need to see me?"

"Because I'm not at all self-assured. I have a tug of war going on inside of me. My feelings change so quickly I can't define myself or understand the complexities of my personality."

(continued on page 13-A)



city/county

SECTION A

Meadows plan moving:

After months of talk — and sometimes argument — a plan for the treasured property that suits the city and the non-profits appears headed toward approval. Page 4-A.

Recall fight shapes up:

Petitions demanding a recall election have sufficient signatures, city clerk says; councilman Steve Crockett says he's ready to fight to keep his seat. Pages 6-A and 7-A.

Ski Challenge challenged:

Philip Morris says the Marlboro-sponsored ski race is good fun for a good cause, but an activist doc says it's nothing more than advertising cigarettes to kids. Page 10-A.

Divine Silence:

Father Thomas Keating of St. Benedict's Monastery wants you off the treadmill and on the road to inner peace. Start looking for it on page 2-C.

